Open

Saturday

Even ing

U: til

10 o'Clock

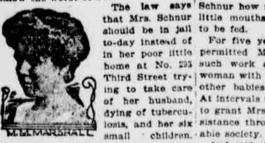
Judge Lauded for Scoring Law That Starves Babies

But Bars Birth Control

Wonderful to Come From the Bench, Daring and High-Minded," Comments Dr. Ira S. Wile, on Judge Wadhams' Pronouncement in Case of Woman Who Stole to Feed Ill Husband and Six Children.

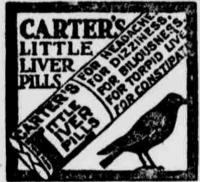
Mrs. Schnur's Theft but One of Thousands of Crimes Committed in New York Because of Law's Iniquities, Doctor Declares-Her Family Called an Instance of True Race Suicide.

Marquerite Mooers Marshall. Mrs. Rebecca Schnur is a burgiar, even a second offender. You must know the worst of her.



law have been playing the old game and cold. Mrs. Schnur stole. She

Five years ago the law said that BRAVE JUDGE EXPOSES THE IN-Mr. Schnur, as a tubercular invalid, could not work. The law also said Yesterday in court she admitted





The law says Schnur how not to add more hungry that Mrs. Schnur little mouths to those then waiting

to-day instead of For five years the law has kindly in her poor little permitted Mrs. Schnur to perform home at No. 203 such work as can be found by a Third Street try- woman with a baby at her breast and ing to take care other bables clinging to her skirts. of her husband, At intervals the law has even deigned dving of tubercu- to grant Mrs. Schnur some slight aslosis, and her six sistance through an orthodox charit-

some time Mrs. Schnur and the And still the children were hungry was set free on a suspended sentence

IQUITIES OF THE LAW. that nobody could teach Mr. and Mrs. that she had stolen again-a watch and a small sum of omney. The catpounce of the law was about to sweep her into prison. Then something big and human and sane, Judge William H. Wadhams, intervened. And this is a part of what he said about the law and Mrs. Schnur in the Court of General Sessions:

"The records inform me that this woman was found guilty once before of stealing. But I understand the onditions. Her busband is not peritted by the authorides to work beause of his being ill with tubercuosis. There is a law against that, As a result of this law the husband

to be anything but tubercular. and themselves, growing up, to repeat the process with society. There is no law against that. But we have not only no birth regulation in such cases, but if information is given with respect to birth regulation people are brought to the bar of justice for it. There is a law they violate. These matters are regulated better in some of the old countries, particularly in Holland, than they are in this country. I believe we are living in an age of ignorance which at some future time

men will look upon aghast. "So that, here we have a family inoreasing in number, with a tubercular husband, with a woman with a child at her breast, with other small children at her skirts, and no money. There is a report which I have from the Charities Society, showing that the defendant, this woman, had to have assistance from time to time to keep from absolute starvation. In order to give her family bread, she steals. I will not send her to jall. Sentence is suspended."

A SUMMARY OF SOCIAL AND

LEGAL FOLLIES.

Because it seemed to me that the case of Mrs. Sohmur exemplified perfectly the crime and misery and social waste which the rational adherents of birth control are fighting. I took her story, with Judge Wadhama's unusually intelligent verdict on it, to Dr. ira S. Wile, one of the most prominent members of the Board of Education, and also a member of the Committee on Birth Conber of the Committee on Birth Con-trol which is endeavoring to smend the penal code.

the penal code,
"That is a wonderful pronouncement which Judge Wadhams has
made," commented Dr. Wile; "wonderful to come from the bench, daring and high-minded. It is a remarkable summary of many of our
social and legal follies.
"Mrs. Schnur's theft is but one
of thousands of crimes committed
in New York because of the law.

"Mrs. Schnur's theft is but one of thousands of crimes committed in New York because of the law which does not allow reputable, physicians and nurses to give adults entering the marriage state such information as will limit their children to the number that they can care for properly. A family like Mrs. Schnur's family is an instance of true race suicide.
"What clied can you call it?" Here

cape collars of fur.

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are children born of a diseased father and of a mother undoubtedly weak-ened by privation and overwork born into a home where they cannol receive proper nourishment. If they grow up, they are more than likely to a to the sort of men and women who depiete the race, who give to it and society less than they receive.

The doctor remarked carefully, "are undoubtedly lofty ideals. But at the biy is Held To-Day.

BINGHAMTON, N. Y., Oct. 13.—The closing session of Mothers' Assembly was held in this city inaction.

Assembly was held in this city than depiete the race, who give to it and society less than they receive.

WESTALLEDIESS AND DEEPART.

"I know a family in circumstances similar to Mrs. Schnur's. There are nine children. One of them had to be sent away to a home for tubercular vistims. Another contracted the discase, and part of his right hand had to be amputated. They all are wretchedly poor, and the father, in his disgust and despair, goes on a long spree every two weeks. And, I repeat—there are nine children in this family.

"In Holland, the country mentioned by Judge Wadhams as having wiser laws than ours, a birth control law

"In Holland, the country mentioned by Judge Wadhams as having wiser laws than ours, a birth control law was promulgated years ago—and by a royal Queen. There physicians are allowed to tell fathers and mothers how to limit their families. And the population of Holland is increasing—not because many children are born in each household but because few children die, since only those for whom a proper environment can be provided are allowed to be born.

"In this country birth control is now receiving no small degree of legal and social sanction. The census shows that there are 25 per cent. fewer children under five years of age than there were fifty years ago, and the report quotes one of our greatest medical authorities. Dr. Billings, as saying that this decrease is due to conscious and intelligent limitation of families. In various States there are laws or strong movements for the sterilization or the segregation of the unfit. Marriages are annulled on the ground of fraud—the fraud being that one party or the other is unfit to become a parent.

"If, instead of having six living children at the age of thirty-five, Mrs. Schnur had had the one or two she could have supported—well, there is all the probability that he would not have been an invalid, that she would not have head to steal to feed her bables and that the whole household would have been on the right side of the dead line between social efficiency and inefficiency."

"There are persons, Dr. Wile." I suggested, "who will say that self control and not birth control is the answer."

"Chastity and temporary celibacy."

"What else can you call it? Here "Chastity and temporary celibacy,

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grow up, they are more than likely to grow into the sort of men and women who depiete the race, who give to it succinctly—"birth control is understood and practiced by all of us except those who need it most and to whom our code of hyporrisy makes that they receive.

THE NATURAL CONSEQUENCES.

Inaction.

A some down to this," he ended to understood and practiced by all of us except those who need it most and to whom our code of hyporrisy makes it a crime to give the knowledge."

Mothers' Assembly was held in this city this morning. The executive board held a seasion for the transaction of unfinitely—"birth control is understood and practiced by all of us except those who need it most and to whom our code of hyporrisy makes it which Mrs. Everett Metcalf acted as toastmistress.



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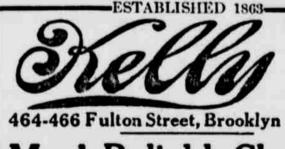


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